



Amber C. (NE)
S. Buys
2/25/02

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Brian E. Pellegrino

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-114

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Sir:

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C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application. Entry of this amendment should place the present application in condition for allowance or at least in better condition for appeal. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the following:

~~Please amend claims 1 to read as follows:~~

1. (Twice Amended) An end member for use with an implant for fusing bone comprising:
- a first portion with a top surface adopted and configured to engage the bone and having a perimeter edge and a first channel extending across at least a portion of the top surface from the perimeter edge for receiving a surgical instrument;
- a second portion configured and dimensioned to be inserted into a bore of the implant;
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